Human smuggling

2078. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether it is fact that human smuggling can be described as an organized crime in India and thus helping the touts to earn in lakhs;

if so, the details of those involved for human smuggling and number of smuggling cases, State-wise, during the last three years;

whether Government has taken any step to combat the situation and also to check the easy availability of immigrant licences; and

if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIK RAO GAVIT): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is implementing a project known as the Organised Crime Intelligence System (OCIS). 'Human smuggling' does not figure in the category of organised crime in the NCRB database.

(b) to (d) Data and information on human smuggling is not being maintained centrally as all illegal migration of people need not necessarily imply trafficking in persons. However, complaints are received from time to time by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs regarding recruitment of labourers/workers by unregistered agencies, including travel agencies, who send persons abroad for work in violation of the provisions of the Emigration Act. Such cases are sent to the State Police Authorities for due legal action. During 2005 to November 2007,168 complaints were received against unregistered agencies and prosecution sanction was issued in about 35 cases. During the same period 262 complaints were received against registered recruiting agents and 123 registration certificates were cancelled/suspended.

Specifying items under panchayat regulation of the UT OF Lakshadweep

2079. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether the Administrator of Union Territory of Lakshadweep have specified any item for obtaining consultations from the District Panchayat of the Union Territory under the IV schedule of Panchayat Regulation of the U.T.;

if so, the items specified by the Administrator; and

if not, the reasons for not specifying the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) Provision for obtaining consultation frorn the District Panchayat is in Fifth Schedule (and not in the Fourth Schedule) of the Lakshadweep Panchayat Regulation, 1994.

Lakshadweep Administration has notified Lakshadweep District Panchayat (Procedure for consultation with the President-cum-Chief Counseller and Vice-President-cum-Counsellors) Rules, 2004, as provided under Section 44 of the Lakshadweep Panchayat Regulation to make consultation on the matters prescribed under Fifth Schedule* of the Regulation, *viz.* Five Year Plans and Annual Plans for the development of the Union Territory,